

Wallace—for their academic achievement, commitment to high standards, and as a shining example of the educational quality found throughout West Tennessee.

The American College Testing (ACT) is a standardized test for high school achievement and college admission. The test consists of four concentrations: English, mathematics, reading and science reasoning, with an optional writing component. The main four tests are scored individually on a scale of 1 to 36.

On behalf of Tennessee's 8th Congressional District, I congratulate all these individuals and wish them the best of luck for all future endeavors. I am extremely proud of you all.

SERGEANT JENNIFER LATINI

HON. ED PERLMUTTER

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 21, 2014

Mr. PERLMUTTER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize and honor Sergeant Jennifer Latini for her service to our country.

Sergeant Latini served in the United States Army and Army National Guard from 1989 to 1995. She was assigned to the Defense Intelligence Agency where she used her Arabic language and knowledge of Arabic culture during her deployment to Riyadh, Saudi Arabia. She continues to use her skills and passion for veterans' issues by serving as the Secretary for the United Veterans Committee of Colorado.

Through her courageous service, Sergeant Latini charted the path for future generations of women to serve in the military. I extend my deepest appreciation to Sergeant Jennifer Latini for her dedication, integrity and outstanding service to the United States of America.

OUR UNCONSCIONABLE NATIONAL DEBT

HON. MIKE COFFMAN

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 21, 2014

Mr. COFFMAN. Mr. Speaker, on January 20, 2009, the day President Obama took office, the national debt was \$10,626,877,048,913.08.

Today, it is \$17,479,199,305,480.74. We've added \$6,852,322,256,567.70 to our debt in 5 years. This is over \$6.8 trillion in debt our nation, our economy, and our children could have avoided with a balanced budget amendment.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. BETTY MCCOLLUM

OF MINNESOTA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 21, 2014

Ms. MCCOLLUM. Mr. Speaker, earlier this week I attended the funeral of a family member and missed votes on May 19, 2014 and May 20, 2014. Had I been present, I would have voted in support of the following bills:

1. H.R. 2203—To provide for the award of a gold medal on behalf of Congress to Jack Nicklaus, in recognition of his service to the Nation in promoting excellence, good sportsmanship, and philanthropy

2. H.R. 685—American Fighter Aces Congressional Gold Medal

3. Agreeing to the Conference Report on H.R. 3080—Water Resources Reform and Development Act

4. H.R. 3530—Justice for Victims of Trafficking Act

5. H.R. 4225—Stop Advertising Victims of Exploitation (SAVE) Act

PAYING TRIBUTE TO COLONEL TONY KROGH'S DEDICATED MILITARY SERVICE TO OUR NATION

HON. SPENCER BACHUS

OF ALABAMA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 21, 2014

Mr. BACHUS. Mr. Speaker, let me commend the attention of the House to Colonel Tony Krogh, United States Army, for his extraordinary dedication to duty and selfless service to the United States of America. Colonel Krogh is retiring after an exemplary 28 year career in service to his country. He has been recognized with numerous awards, including the Legion of Merit Award, the Defense Meritorious Service Medal, the Global War on Terrorism Service and Expeditionary Medal, and the Humanitarian Service Medal.

A native of Birmingham, Alabama, Tony earned his commission as an Officer in the United States Army from the ROTC program at the University of Alabama, where he was recognized as a Distinguished Military Graduate. He served first as an engineer and later as a Models and Simulations Officer with numerous operational assignments in Germany; Fort Drum, NY; Fort McPherson, GA; and Saudi Arabia. His combat deployments include Operation Desert Shield/Desert Storm and Operation Iraqi Freedom, where he served as the chief of current operations for Joint Task Force 7. He also excelled as the lead for a Partnership for Peace military exercise that involved planning, coordination, and execution with 42 countries. Because of his demonstrated superior understanding of Corps operations, he was selected by the Corps Commander as the interim Deputy G-3 and Deputy Chief of Operations.

In recognition of his superior performance, Tony was specifically chosen in 2005 to lead the Army's effort to integrate mission command systems. He skillfully led a Combat Identification effort that for the first time allowed common operating pictures across all services, reducing the risk of accidental deaths for U.S. and Coalition forces. Simultaneously, Tony led the effort for the Army's first "Battle Command Strategy," published in 2006, which created a service wide battle command architecture that is still in use today.

Immediately after his training at the Industrial College of the Armed Forces in 2008, Tony was appointed as the Director of Simulation at the Aviation Center of Excellence. He leveraged his extensive technical background and operational experience to produce realistic training exercises that readied 21 aviation brigades for deployment to Iraq and Afghanistan.

He provided the leadership and strategic vision for Aviation simulators and simulation programs across the U.S. Army, while managing a \$1.8 billion service contract and the largest collection of high fidelity, full motion simulators in the world.

In 2010, having been recognized as the Army's foremost authority on training simulations, Tony became the first Colonel centrally selected to be the Director of the National Simulation Center (NSC). In that capacity, he provided the U.S. Army with state-of-the-art training simulation capabilities from individual soldier to theater level command exercises. Simultaneously, he was given the responsibility for the Army's efforts with Live, Virtual, and Constructive (LVC) Integrated Training. His direct involvement created the most realistic and affordable training across camps, posts and stations the Army has ever known.

In July of 2012, Colonel Krogh was selected to serve as the Executive Officer for the Deputy Chief of Staff for Programs (G-8) where he swiftly established much needed procedures and high standards. After an extremely successful first year, he rebuilt the G-8's Initiatives Group and as Director, focused efforts on shaping and promoting Army equities across numerous communities at the strategic level.

Throughout his successful career, Colonel Krogh has been anchored by the strength of his wife and partner, Kim. Through her generous spirit and loving support, she has selflessly stood by Tony's side, taking care of their family through countless moves and stressful deployments. At every step of the way, Mrs. Krogh has sought community leadership and volunteer positions within military and local communities. Her endeavors include major fundraising for scholarships, Toys for Tots, and renovating youth sports facilities; volunteering for school programs, local animal rescues, and animal therapy for hospital patients and the elderly; and establishing community websites to link family members. In fact, Kim was selected as "Community Volunteer of the Year" in Heidelberg, Germany. Mrs. Krogh embodies the ideals we cherish: strength, loyalty, commitment and selfless service. Her sacrifices and accomplishments as well have earned our admiration.

Mr. Speaker, it has been my honor to recognize Colonel Tony Krogh and his nearly three decades of dignified and distinguished service. On behalf of a grateful nation, I join my colleagues today in recognizing and commending his contributions and the mark he has made on the United States Army. We wish Tony, his wife Kim, and their two children, Mary Ashley and Erickson, all the best as they embark on their next journey.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. BILL SHUSTER

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 21, 2014

Mr. SHUSTER. Mr. Speaker, on rollcall No. 221, I was unable to vote. Had I been present, I would have voted "yea."